



SURVEY ANNOUNCEMENT



United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
Delta Regional Office (serving Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi)
10800 Financial Centre Parkway, Suite 110, Little Rock, AR 72211

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Contact: Eugene Young
(800) 327-2970

USDA to Collect Data on Farmland Rental Rates

Jackson, MS – Beginning in February, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service will contact Mississippi farmers and ranchers to gather land rental rate information for the *Cash Rents and Leases* survey. The results of this survey will serve as a valuable decision-making tool for farmers, ranchers, and other landowners during rental agreement negotiations.

"This brief survey is our only source of county cash rental rates," said Esmerelda Dickson, Mississippi State Statistician. "By responding, producers help the farming community and ensure USDA bases its decisions on the most accurate data."

NASS will publish average cash rental rates at national, state and county levels for non-irrigated cropland, irrigated cropland, and pastureland on September 8, 2017.

Approximately 5,600 of Mississippi farmers will receive the survey forms. NASS offers the option of responding online via a secure internet connection. In April, producers who have not responded may be contacted for a telephone or personal interview by a National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) enumerator.

"NASS will combine your responses with your fellow producers nationwide, providing the only accurate and comprehensive estimate of U.S. average rent and lease rates," Dickson added.

For more information about the *Cash Rents and Leases* survey, call the NASS Delta Regional Office at (800) 327-2970. All NASS reports and data are available online at www.nass.usda.gov.

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